

Wilson: M-2

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
NEW YORK CITY

December 9, 1946

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
Hyde Park,
New York

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

Several weeks ago, my fiancée, our immediate families, and I drove to Hyde Park. Inhibited by the realization of the deepness of your loss, I am still impelled to write these few words of appreciation.

The privilege of wandering through rooms and buildings which he once used, of looking at his mementoes, of pausing for a few moments' reverie at his tomb, of seeing the saddened faces of the plain people who had come to spend a few hours at the shrine of the man who had devoted a lifetime to them, can never be forgotten. There is one other memorial to the work of Franklin Delano Roosevelt; a successful United Nations---and your efforts in that behalf are applauded on all sides.

We face the task before us with great humility, but with a sense of security imparted by the knowledge that the paths have been clearly marked by FDR.

Again we thank you, and wish you strength and courage for the struggle for peace and freedom.

Gratefully yours,

Marvin N. Wilson
Marvin N. Wilson

158-18 Riverside Drive
New York 32, N.Y.

Letter from Mrs
Sondra J. Peck
10/14/46

Mrs Wilson

Shriners' Hospital for Crippled Children
Greenville, South Carolina
September 15, 1946

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

May I add my request to Joel's--in part, at least, by way of clarification.

In asking you to ascertain for us whether the United States Delegation to the United Nations is interested in our little offering--we do not wish to appear impatient or over-persistent. It is just that we wonder if, in the pressure of affairs, our documents have been overlooked and may continue to be. It does seem, in the light of present-appearing urgency, that every possible movement for peace should be utilized--and so we ask you, and, through you, the U.S. Delegation, to investigate the possibilities of our song and organization plan.

Surely it is true that children, as future citizens who must reap what is now being sown, have a most vital interest in the future world...and therefore have the moral right to take any step they may be permitted to take, to help make and maintain a peaceful future world.

The little experiment of our children here has given overwhelming proof that children can be deeply interested in their fellow-beings in the world--in the United Nations Organization, and in every great work toward peace. These children are most eager for children everywhere to be given the opportunity to learn about other children, "to make friends with them and to serve them" that they, here, have been given. And they earnestly desire to give their song to be sung by all, in the prayerful hope that they, the children, may exert some influence with their own plea for peace.

We think there is a good possibility that the publication LIFE, through its new International issue, may be willing to help us present our plan and cause to children of other nations. Also that, with the aid of the radio program "We the People" (which might let one little section for one broadcast period become "We the Children") we may interest Mr. Irving Berlin in publishing our song and helping us send it across the world. Using, in the case any money should be realized from its publication, all such funds to help children, and to further the cause of peace for their sake.

TELEPHONE 4216

LUELLA SCHLOEMAN, R. N.
SUPERINTENDENT

SHRINERS' HOSPITALS FOR CRIPPLED CHILDREN

P. O. BOX 179

GREENVILLE
SOUTH CAROLINA



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2246

Sept. 6, 1946

Dear Mr. Roosevelt,
we want to tell you something about our song,
and then to ask you to find out something for us.

Our song was first dedicated to President Roosevelt
because he had so much to start the United Nations and
help "Keep the Flag of Freedom Flying"

we sent our song and class plain to Secretary of
State Aurnum a long time ago. He wrote us that he turned
them over to the U.S. Delegation to the United Nations.
Will you please bring it up before the other delegates and
find out if they can use it? We want it used so much

to help make peace for "children all over the world"
Our friends in other countries keep asking us for the
music and we can't send it till it is published. They want
to sing it to.

TELEPHONE 4816

LUELLA SCHLOEMAN, R. H.
SUPERINTENDENT

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You say if the United Nations do not find any use for it, we would like to go ahead and try to get Mr. Golling Berlin to publish it. Do you think it would be all right for us to go ahead and ask Mr. Berlin?

We do wish our song could be put in all the languages so children could be singing it. We wish some children could sing it at the peace conference and at every meeting between the nations. Because it is children's plea for peace.

We are sending you news about our club and the program when we raised our beautiful new flag of Four Freedoms.

We thank you for your work for peace.

Your friends -

Children of the United Nations

(By Joel Feltner Secretary)

"CHILDREN OF THE UNITED NATIONS"

Organized, January, 1946, at the Shriners' Hospital for Crippled Children, Greenville, South Carolina.

Official Flags: Flags of the United Nations, also, the United Nations Flag of Four Freedoms, which stands for the flags of all the other United Nations, when used with the national flag of any one of them.

Official Song: "KEEP THE FLAGS OF FREEDOM FLYING"
("For Children All Over the World.")

Motto: "Knowledge -- Friendship -- Service"

Dedications: To the success of the United Nations Organization, in achieving Four Freedoms, Peace and Prosperity, for all the world.

Aims: 1. To learn all we can about the United Nations and their people -- especially their children -- their needs and their problems; in the hope that we may help, in some small way, toward the success of the United Nations Organization, in carrying out its great purpose; and also in the hope and belief that we shall grow into better citizens thereby--better citizens of this hospital, of our home communities, of our state and nation, and of the world.

Aims: 2. To make friends with the children of the United Nations, especially through cooperation with all groups of children interested in having an organization like ours -- in the hope and belief that friendship among the children of the world today will continue into friendship and cooperation among the citizens of the world tomorrow.

Aims: 3. To serve, believing that we the children of America can best show our gratitude to God for the wonderful blessings that are ours -- the mercies that have spared us so much of the suffering borne by so many other children -- by doing our best to share our blessings with those less fortunate, in whatever way we can, none too small. Believing, too, that we can show our appreciation to the great organization that founded and supports the Shriners' Hospital by striving to pass on the good they are doing to us, and wanting to adopt for our own the Bible verse on which the Shriners' Hospital was founded - "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me" - we dedicate our little organization to carrying out the aims here stated.

Signed by members:

Harriet Luebke - Tennessee
Shirley Bowers - S. C.
Joyce Kelle - Pa.
Delores Smoak - Fla.
Susie Wood - Fla.
Elneda Padgett - S. C.
Loretta Anderson, S. C.
Janet Leopard, S. C.
Shirley Moon, S. C.

Edward Solomon - Georgia
Thomas James Jol King - S. C.
Bill Hays - S. C.
Edwin Dean Tenn.
Ernest Ramsey - Tenn.
Colon Welch N. C.
Ben Chapman Florida
Carroll Leatham Savannah Ga.
Arley Wilson Florida

[Wilson, P.]

Wilson, -

I am very sorry
to hear of your
experience at
Warren Springs. I
have written to
the people in
charge about this
incident without
using your name,
of course -

Neither I nor any
member of the family

have any connection
with the management
of Warren Spang but
I shall certainly
investigate.

E.L.

Copy without name
or address of Spang
Fred Bolts - Don Spang
D. B. Connor

I am sure a copy
of a letter which
came to me bearing

W. Reno & address.

I do hope that
the house at W. Reno
may be visited
by white & colored
with no discrimination

*how do these Jews & Negro
 Bank & on 11/10/46
 stay that I hope
 the long way to visit
 by such work + contact P, Wilson
 Morris Brown College
 Atlanta, Georgia
 October 14, 1946
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 October 14, 1946*

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
 Hyde Park
 New York

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I realize that the struggle between the forces of reaction and liberalism is reflected in many varied aspects of our daily life. It is with this understanding that I relate what might otherwise seem to be a trivial matter. Some reluctance accompanies my writing this letter since it involves a sacred part of your memories. On the other hand, your past record of fighting for the rights of people gives me hope that you will find time to do something to help in this matter.

On Sunday, September 22, 1946, I visited the Warm Springs Estate for obvious reasons. This visit was made in the company of two friends—one young lady and one young man. We were suffering from the apparently unforgivable sin of being Negroes. I drove to view the "Little White House" and paused momentarily in front of the two guards on duty hoping to find the proper procedure from that point. These men (on duty about 1:00 P.M.) seemed disinterested and thus led me to believe that I should exercise my own intelligence regarding the procedure. I then started toward the fence enclosing the "Little White House" thinking I would park there as two other drivers who were white had done previously. Before I had gone two feet the guard startled me with a harsh bellow, "There's hell're you going?" I stopped the car immediately and responded that I wished to look at the house. In a loud voice he remarked, quite vehemently to say the least, "You know you ain't supposed to be up here. Git the hell out'a here." Of course, I didn't know I was not supposed to be in that spot, unless the assumption that Negroes are never to be found in the same place with whites is to be made. There were no signs to indicate such a state of affairs. I therefore paused momentarily and hoped he would explain further. Since he did not I thought I might ask him some questions. As these thoughts coursed through my mind, time passed. About five seconds passed without my having made effort to move or appearing as if I were planning to do so. The guard then reached for his pistol which was hanging at his side. This, of course, settled whatever perplexity existed in my mind. I had no right to flirt with the lives of my two friends who had accepted my invitation to visit the place of a man for whom they both have high respect. Knowing that at the moment "open season" prevails for shooting Negroes in Georgia, I drove away—slowly, nevertheless, as I was still somewhat bewildered over the attitude of the man chosen to guard the spot dedicated to the memory of a great liberal.

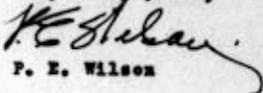
The events, I think, need no comment for your understanding. They are far too clear in themselves. My faith in you makes me inform you of this insult to the memory of Franklin D. Roosevelt as well as to three human beings racially classified as Negroes. Since you have more influence than either my friends or I, we should

Mrs. Roosevelt--2.

like to feel that you will do what you can to end this misuse of the rules of civilization. Although I am signing my name, we all prefer to remain anonymous for the protection of ourselves and the institution with which I am connected.

With the hope that we may hear from you sometime soon, and that you find it possible to do something about this matter, I am

Very truly yours,


P. E. Wilson